

IN THE CLAIMS

1.-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended): A process for producing a pearlescent white finish on a substrate which process comprises applying an improved pearlescent white paint composition comprising a film-former and a solids material comprising ~~a pearlizing effective amount of a pearlizing compound, a hiding material and a pigment, the improvement wherein said hiding material is selected from the group consisting of metals selected from the group consisting of particulate aluminum, zinc, copper, nickel, stainless steel and alloys thereof, and compounds selected from aluminum oxide, aluminum silicate, hydrated magnesium aluminum silicate, silica, mica aluminum silicate, magnesium oxide, calcium carbonate, calcium sulphate, calcium metasilicate, anhydrous sodium potassium aluminum silicate, sodium aluminum silicate, alumina trihydrate and barium sulphate in, respective, at least 90% w/w mica, and 4-7% w/w TiO₂; and 0.2-3.0% w/w particulate metallic Al, in respectively,~~ effective whitening and hiding amounts to said substrate; and curing said composition on said substrate to provide a cured said pearlescent white finish.

14. (original) A process as defined in claim 13 further comprising applying a clear coat to said cured finish and curing said clear coat.

15. (original) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said substrate is a vehicle body.

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended): A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said ~~pearlizing compound~~ mica is selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic, coated or uncoated mica or white mica compound, ~~and a natural organic pearlescent material.~~

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended): A process as defined in claim ~~22~~ 20 wherein said particulate metallic A1 is coated with SiO₂.

24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended): A process as defined in claim ~~24~~ 13 comprising 94.0± 1% w/w mica, 5.0± 1% w/w TiO₂ and 0.5± 0.3 w/w A1.

26. (currently amended): A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said ~~composition~~ comprises a film-former is selected from the resin group consisting of an acrylic, urethane, polyester and melamine/formaldehyde.

27. (previously presented): A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said composition comprises a formulation base selected from the group consisting of an aqueous, solvent and lacquer base.

28. (previously presented): A process as defined in claim 26 or claim 27 wherein said composition comprises about 7-8% acrylic, about 1% urethane, about 6% polyester and about 5% melamine formaldehyde resins on a w/w basis.